

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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AMCONSUL MUNICH

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AMEMBASSY ROME

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USIA WASHDC

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CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA

CNO WASHDC//OP-614

DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII

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FOR POLADS

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SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - AUGUST 17

1. HIGHLIGHTS:

-- ALL CENTRAL MEDIA CARRY FAIRLY FULL, FACTUAL REPORTS ON THE OPENING OF THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION IN KANSAS CITY.

-- PRAVDA HAS LONG DEFENSE OF SOVIET IMPLEMENTATION OF CSCE AGREEMENTS ON IMPROVING EXCHANGES OF BOOKS AND PUBLISHED MATERIALS. AUTHOR, B. STUKALIN, CHAIRMAN OF GOSKOMISDAT, CITES FIGURES SHOWING THAT USSR HAS INCREASED PRINTING OF FRG AUTHORS BY MORE THAN TWELVE PERCENT, ENGLISH ALMOST SIXTEEN PERCENT, AMERICAN AUTHORS BY ONE THIRD AND FRENCH BY MORE THAN THREE FOURTHS, WHILE MANY CAPITALIST COUNTRIES PUBLISH SIGNIFICANTLY FEWER BOOKS BY SOVIET AUTHORS AND THIS OUTPUT IS DECLINING. HE ALSO CITES SMITH AND KAISER BOOKS AS HURTING DETENTE.

-- ALL CENTRAL PRESS NOTES DEPARTURE FROM USSR OF BULGARIAN PARTY CHIEF ZHVIKOV ON AUG 16 AND BREZHNEV'S MEETING IN THE CRIMEA WITH MONGOLIAN PARTY CHIEF TSEDENBAL SAME DAY.

-- KZ REPORTS UNNAMED NATO MANEUVER SET FOR SEPT 6 TO 10 IN WHICH U.S., FRG, CANADA AND OTHER NATO COUNTRIES WILL PARTICIPATE. SOTRY GOES ON TO NOTE FRG USE OF BASES OF OTHER NATO COUNTRIES FOR MILITARY TRAINING.

-- ALL MEDIA REPORT THE OPENING OF THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT IN COLOMBO, STRESSING SOVIET AND "SOCIALIST" SUPPORT FOR THOSE COUNTRIES AND CHANGING U.S. AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHINESE OPPOSITION.

-- ON BELANON, "COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" IN PRAVDA BY YU. GLUKHOV DESCRIBES "PLOT" AGAINST LEBANON INVLLVING "IMPERIALIST, ZIONISTS, AND REACTIONARY ARAB CIRCLES." ARTICLE CONCENTRATES ON "PIRITICAL ACTS" OF ISRAEL, SAYS THEY ARE AIMED AT NATIONAL-LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN REGION, AND SEEK TO DEFLECT ATTENTION AWAY FROM

PRIMARY CAUSE OF ME TENSION--CONTINUED ISRAELI AGGRESSION AND OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES.

-- PRAVDA AND KZ CARRY TASS BEIRUT ITEM CHARGING RIGHTIST EXCESS IN TAL ZAATAR, SAYS RIGHTIST-CHRISTIAN FORCES ARE SCUTTLING ALL ATTEMPTS TO REACH POLITICAL SETTLEMENT AND THAT PLANS TO FORM A NEW CABINET WITHOUT "PROGRESSIVE" PARTICIPATION ARE UNREALISTIC.

-- PAGE ONE "INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY" BY L. KORYAVIN IN IZVESTIYA PRESENTS A DETAILED CRITICISM OF ISRAELI POLICIES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

-- BOTH PRAVDA AND KZ CARRY TASS WASHINGTON ITEM CITING WP AND CSM ON IDEA THAT U.S. MILITARY AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF ISRAEL ENABLES ISRAELI-SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY COOPERATION.

"" IZVESTIYA CARRIES TASS REPORT OF LIBYAN LEADER QADHAFI'S STOPOVER IN TASHKENT ON AUG 16 ENROUTE TO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT IN COLOMBO.

-- PRAVDA DESCRIBES EXCHANGE OF TELEGRAMS BETWEEN KOSYGIN AND NEW SYRIAN PM KUALYFAWI.

-- IZVESTIYA HAS SHORT, STRAIGHTFORWARD PIECE ON GREEK-TURKISH DISPUTE OVER AEGEAN SEA, NOTING THAT U.S. PRESS HAS FOCUSED ON POTENTIAL THREAT TO NATO. IZVESTIYA CITES NY TIMES QUOTING SECRETARY THAT U.S. DOES NOT HAVE A SPECIFIC POSITION AND CONSIDERS DISPUTE MUST BE SETTLED BY GREECE AND TURKEY.

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2. ALL CENTRAL MEDIA REPORT ON START OF REPUBLICAN CONVENTION IN KANSAS CITY. TREATMENT IS CAREFUL TO DEAL WITH TECHNIQUES AND PROCEDURES OF CONVENTION WITH NO INDICATION OF WHETHER PRESIDENT FORD OR GOVERNOR REAGAN FAVORED TO GET NOMINATION. KZ MANAGES TO GET THROUGH STORY WITHOUT MENTION OF EITHER CANDIDATE'S NAME. PRAVDA REPORTS WASHINGTON POST DELEGATE COUNT AND DESCRIBES SOME OF THE U.S. PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT THE BASES OF THE TWO CANDIDATES' APPEAL.
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